**Amount Spent on Advertisements**

3262. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL Alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the details of the total amount spent by his Ministry on advertisements given to the Newspapers directly or through DAVP etc., during the period 1992-93 and 1993-94 language-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Exploitation of untapped marine and Inland Fisheries**

3263. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to give a major thrust to exploitation of large untapped marine and inland fisheries to earn more foreign exchange and to provide jobs to poor people both in the coastal and inland areas; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the major Schemes in operation for exploitation of inland and marine fishery resources, in order to earn foreign exchange and provide employment opportunities, are as under:

I. Ministry of Agriculture:

(i) Freshwater Aquaculture

(ii) Integrated Brackishwater Fish Farm Development

(iii) Fishery Harbour facilities at Major ports

(iv) Fishery Harbour facilities at Minor ports

(v) Motorisation of Traditional Craft

(vi) Introduction of plywood Craft

(vii) Introduction of Intermediate Craft

(viii) Re-imbursement of Excise Duty on High Speed Diesel (HSD) oil to fishing vessels below 20m size.

(ix) Resource enhancement through Artificial Reefs & Mariculture.

II. Ministry of Food Processing Industries:

(i) Assistance and interest subsidy for aquisition of deep sea fishing vessels.

III. Ministry of Commerce:

(i) High Speed Diesel (HSD) oil price reimbursement scheme.

(ii) Assistance for diversified fishing to shrimp trawlers.

(iii) Equity participation in companies setting up export oriented projects.

(iv) Pilot scheme to assist large mechanised fishing vessels.

(v) Subsidy for new shrimp from development

(vi) subsidy for shrimp hatchery

(vii) Subsidy for shrimp seed and feed

(viii) Subsidy for brood stock bank etc.

**Relief operations in earthquake affected villages in Maharashtra**

3264. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the inadequacy of relief operations in villages, bordering Maharashtra, which were destroyed by the earthquake (Khillari earthquake) last year;

(b) whether it is a fact that in a recent seismological survey, some 48 villages in the districts of Bijapur and Gulbarga (in Karnataka) have been declared earthquake prone;

(c) whether the State Government of Karnataka has submitted any proposal for Central assistance, for relocation of these villages involving an outlay of Rs. 93.50 crores; and

(d) whether the Centre would consider this request for aid favourably on humanitarian and compassionate grounds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Government of Karnataka has reported that the State Government had taken prompt relief measures such as rescue and relief; payment of ex-gratia to the victims; restoration of damaged public property; and relocation of 8 badly affected villages in the wake of earthquake of September, 1993.

(b) No such survey has been reported;

(c) Government of Karnataka has prepared and submitted to Government of India, for seeking assistance from the World Bank, a Project proposal for relocation of 48 villages and construction of earthquake resistant houses at a cost of Rs. 93.541 crores.

(d) Government of Karnataka has been requested to make some modifications in the Project proposal. After these modifications are made, the proposal will be considered for posing to the World Bank for assistance.

**Study on soil suitability for tobacco cultivation**

3265. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to direct ICAR to conduct a special study on the soil suitability of upland areas of West Godavari District and East Godavari District in Andhra Pradesh for tobacco cultivation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have conducted any study in this regard;

(d) how does Government propose to encourage tribal farmers to go for lucrative cash crops like tobacco; and

(e) whether any discussion has been held with the state Government of Andhra Pradesh in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Central Tobacco Research Institute (CTRI) had conducted soil suitability studies and has indicated areas suitable for cultivation of Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco in West Godavari district and Burley tobacco in the Agency area of East Godavari district.

(d) A high-yielding FCV variety CM-12 has been evolved and the crop production technology for its cultivation is being disseminated to the farmers, a majority of whom are tribals. CTRI has also established a sub station to serve the interests of tribal farmers of West Godavari district. A Burley Research Centre has been established in the tribal area of Jeddangi to help the tribal farmers in getting higher productivity and better quality of Burley tobacco. A high yielding exotic variety Benket—A1 has been introduced in the tribal area.

(e) In the production of Burely tobacco, Girijan Co-operative Corporation, Intensive Tribal Development Agency and the Department of Agriculture are co- operating with CTRI in the promotion of cultivation of tobacco.

**Revamping of consultancy schemes by FAO**

3266. SHRI G.Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) has revamped its consultancy scheme; and

(b) how far this move will lead to make FAO's programme of Technical Cooperation amongst Developing Countries (TCDC) useful to India and benefit it, particularly allowing the Indian scientists to put their knowledge and skills to wider use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) We have no information about revamping of the Consultancy Scheme by the FAO. However, with a view to promote individual and collective self-reliance and sharing of technical